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WOMAN'S WORLD.

A WOMAN WHO INVENTS AND DOES OTHER THINGS WELL.

Women as Shipping Clerks—Octavia Williams Bates. The Breakfast Jacket—International Women's Congress—Working Girls' Clubs.

The first woman who has invented any mechanical appliance relating to the bicycle is Mrs. Sadie W. Bodine of New York city.

An invention for women by a woman has a practical ring to it, and an enthusiastic wheelwoman is bound to know the needs of her fellow wheel-women as no mere man could, however laudable his intentions. In riding a wheel Mrs. Bodine found that the greatest drawback to her comfort was her inability to keep her skirt from being blown about with the wind, no matter how substantial the material used or how heavily it was weighted. She set



Mrs. SADIE W. BODINE.

about to design some contrivance for her own convenience, and a clever invention was the result.

Mrs. Bodine comes honestly by her knack of inventing useful contrivances. She is a great-granddaughter of Gethro Wood, the inventor of the cast iron plow and the metal door lock. Her father, the late Albert H. Wood, made some of the most valuable inventions in piano forks and was the first to introduce rubber into their construction.

Mrs. Bodine's first invention was an improved variety of sewing machine needles. Besides her ingenuity in mechanical inventions, she is well known as a designer and furnisher of artistic apartments, and has written several popular topical songs. This remarkably versatile woman has seen but a quarter of a century, and possesses a charm of manner and grace of person that are somewhat difficult to associate with machinery and patent offices.—New York Tribune.

Women as Shipping Clerks.

One of New York's biggest dry goods merchants, demonstrates his faith in woman's executive ability. From base to roof his establishment is almost entirely under feminine control.

The delivery department was the first one interested in the case of the gender, so it was a success inviting others to follow. The young woman superintendent is not masculine in her appearance. She has entire charge of this department, engaging and discharging help at her pleasure. She is personally responsible to the firm for the correct delivery of all goods purchased in the store.

Directly under her supervision come 18 delivery wagons, as many drivers and between 25 and 30 boys. There are also a number of shipping clerks assisting her in various ways and between 10 and 12 clerks.

Personally she must arrange the routes and assign them to the drivers, listen to all complaints and smooth out difficulties arising therefrom. Whith she is a very unassuming little person.

"You know, I am merely a wage earner, that's all. Yes, I believe my place is rather unusual, but not more so than many of the other young women's here," were her replies to questions. "I have complete charge of my department, but do not find the work too laborious. Of course, my work is not my own as is possible, and things generally run very smoothly. Women are more reliable. I believe, in their business relations than men. That is why they are preferred here."

Among 50 women employed in superior places in the main office of the firm, there was scarcely a plain face.—New York Sun.

Octavia Williams Bates.

Miss Octavia Williams Bates of Detroit enjoys the unique distinction of being president of the postgraduate law class at the College of Law of Michigan. The honor is the greater as the law class to graduate this school year will be the first to complete the new four years' course. The presidency of the law classes is as eagerly sought as any political office. There are but three or four women in the law department, and Miss Bates is leader of the coterie. She has been honored before by minor offices in her class. Her present experience at the university is not her first. She was one of the first women to enter, and in 1877 she took the degree of bachelor of arts.

Regarding her first experience, Miss Bates has said: "When I entered the university, the higher classes of women were still in its experimental stage. I anticipated a great deal that would be difficult and hard to bear; but, having determined to secure a thorough education, I never tried myself to endure all the trials that lay before me. It is happy for me that however, make great fortunes, seldom go bankrupt, and generally are rather more scrupulous than men in small pecuniary transactions.—London Spectator.

Advancement of Women and a member of the board of directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The Breakfast Jacket.

The breakfast jacket this season has taken the place of the breakfast gown. It is made of various materials and is generally worn with a skirt. The most inexpensive are made of flannelette, and the most costly of silk. Some of the elaborate ones, with a skirt to match, are almost as expensive as a party gown. The silk skirt is trimmed with lace ruffles and the jacket made with a lace border. But for everyday wear the breakfast jacket of flannelette is the most serviceable. One dainty French model recently seen was of pale violet flannelette, trimmed with baby ribbon in a violet. The jacket was striped with lines of the baby ribbon, which in the center were fastened in a knot with tiny loops. The collar was a high ruff of violet silk, edged with three rows of the ribbon velvet. The sleeve was made with a short puff at the shoulder, which was finished with five rows of the ribbon wound about the arm and then tied in a bow. The deep cuff of the sleeve was made of two lace frills and headed by rows of baby ribbon.

The skirt was made of the jacket waistband of flannelette and the same color.

A deep flounce of violet silk finished it at the bottom. The flounce was almost entirely covered by rows of the baby velvet ribbon in the shade of violet. Cashmere breakfast jackets trimmed with lace are also very pretty.

They may be worn with a skirt to match, or one of silk. One seen recently was of bright sunset cashmere trimmed with black lace insertions and narrow black velvet ribbons.—Chicago Times-Herald.

International Women's Congress.

The international women's congress, which met last September in Berlin has been a wonderful success. It has been a genuine revelation in the German community. The tone of the press has undergone a complete change. Instead of flippancy sarcasm or serious disapproval by the newspapers are now animated by a friendly spirit. The women and their doings are treated with respectful attention. The calm and dignified tone of the discussions has won universal approval. The New York Nation says:

"Even the exchange of views between the Socialdemocrats and the more conservative elements of the party has led to a more frank and franker expression of the views of the German women. The latter, in their turn, are deriving from occurrences at the congress encouragement for the future reconciliation of the classes through the mediation of women. One of their special objects of agitation just now is the revision by the new Reichstag two years hence of certain sections of the new civil code of the empire, which will not take effect till the year 1900."

Working Girls' Clubs.

There is a federation comprising 29 working girls' clubs of Boston and vicinity. The work of one of these clubs, the Shawmut, was described by Miss Edith M. How at a recent meeting of the good-government class:

"The young women who are members of the working girls' club has interested itself especially in the outside lives of the working women.

An investigation of the moral conditions in which they are placed has been carried on. Factory girls have been most ready to report, and their reports have in general been much more favorable than those of girls employed in stores, but even here girls of innate purity of character and motive are safe, with a few exceptions. Only one or two employees were found in Boston who subjected girls to extraordinary temptations, and against these mere working girls were no complaints.

Some of the girls rather resented this sort of investigation and asked why the club workers did not do something practical, such as taking measures for the bettering of wages and the obtaining of shorter hours. In consequence the subject of early closing was agitated, and an organization was formed among the women, similar to the beneficial association of young men clerks, with a membership of over 100.

Women and Money Matters.

It has often been noted that women are more honorable in money matters than men, and that it is far less rare to have a small loan paid back by a woman than by a man. This fact, again, appears to us to be fully explained by the trustee theory of woman's attitude toward money. Women are not honest in other things than men, but the notion of money being a trust overrides all dominant other considerations. The man who borrows is very apt to forget all about the matter. The woman who borrows feels that a double trust runs with the money, and she cannot rest till she has repaid it. No doubt there are also many exceptions, because there are many bad women, but at least it is safe to say that women are far less careless about money matters than men, and therefore less likely to commit the small acts of pecuniary dishonorableness which come from negligence. Take it as a whole, women are more careful about money matters than men and attend to them more closely. It is safe to say, it is safe to say that they never make great fortunes, seldom go bankrupt, and generally are rather more scrupulous than men in small pecuniary transactions.—London Spectator.

Herod in Women.

Miss Maud Burrows, a young teacher in the Home For Feeble Minded Children, Vineland, N. J., rescued a boy of 14 from the jaws of death. The home was destroyed by fire recently. She had helped to guide the children out of the burning house, and, giving over that she soon found herself having a good time.

She is taking the law course, not with the idea of practicing law, but that she may be able to disentangle legal knots in her own business and may be able to put her knowledge to use in the interest of women. Miss Bates has been president of the Women's club of Detroit, and been a member of the board of directors of the Association for the Ad-

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